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A METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR IMPLEMENTING LOCATION AWARE INFORMATION ACCESS AND RETRIEVAL IN A WIRELESS PORTAL SERVER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for using user location information to customize information in a Web portal. The method includes the steps of receiving user location information from a user, receiving a request for application specific information from the user, selecting pertinent application specific information based on the user location information, and transmitting the pertinent application specific information to the user. The method is implemented within a client/server framework. The client device can be a portable handheld device such as a cellular phone or a wirelessly connected PDA (personal digital assistant). The user location information can be received in accordance with WAP (wireless application protocol) communication standards. The pertinent application specific information can be transmitted to the user in accordance with WML communication standards. The user location information can be a current address, can be a zip code, or can be geographical coordinates of the user. Application specific information of the user can be calendar information and the pertinent application specific information can be information regarding the location of calendar events with respect to the user location. Similarly, application specific information can be hotel information, and the pertinent application specific information can be points of interest near the hotel. The user location information can be associated with a location name, wherein the user selects a particular location by selecting a particular location name from a menu of location names presented by a portable handheld device.